



March 5, 2021

By the Grace of God

The Right Reverend
Dorsey W. M. McConnell
Bishop of Pittsburgh

will ordain

Brandon Pearce Cooper
and
Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan

to the Sacred Order of Deacons
in Christ's one holy catholic
and apostolic Church

Saturday, March 6, 2021
at ten o'clock in the morning

Trinity Cathedral
328 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Your prayers are requested

*The service will be live-streamed on
Trinity Cathedral's Facebook page*

www.facebook.com/trinitycathedralpgh

In-person attendance is by invitation only.

**A Service of Commemoration for
the Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris**

Saturday, March 13, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

A service, streaming live on Facebook, from St. James Episcopal Church in Penn Hills

www.facebook.com/Stjamespgh

The Rev. Laura DiPanfilo, preaching

**Presented by the Commission on Race and Reconciliation
and the Beloved Community Initiative**



The Right Rev. Barbara C. Harris, June 12, 1930 - March 13, 2020, was elected Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts in 1988. Prior to her election, Bishop Harris served as interim-in-charge of the Church of the Advocate in Philadelphia and executive director of the Episcopal Church Publishing Co. She has written extensively for *The Witness*, the Episcopal Church's leading journal advocating peace and justice ministries.

Bishop Harris was ordained a deacon in 1979 and priest in 1980. She was the first woman consecrated bishop in the Anglican Communion

Lenten Preaching Series

God's Work in Our World

February 19 • **Eric McIntosh**
February 26 • **Doug Harink**
March 5 • **Kate Sonderegger**
March 12 • **Jay Geisler**
March 19 • **Natalie Hall**
March 26 • **Kara Slade**

Trinity Cathedral • Pittsburgh

Videos Premiere Fridays in Lent
at 12:30 p.m. on Facebook

Available online at

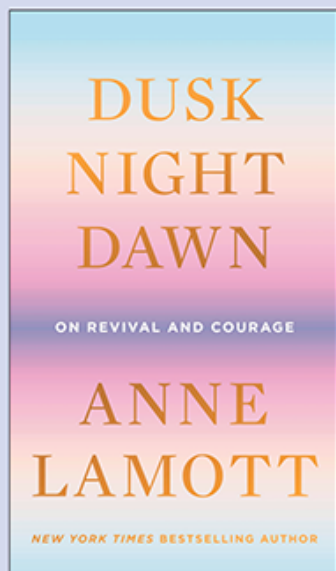
www.trinitycathedralpgh.org

THE BOOKSTORE AT CALVARY

The Bookstore at Calvary, as a member of the Episcopal Booksellers Association, is hosting a series of **Zoom Conversations with Authors** in 2021.

Join the next Live Zoom Conversation on
Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 7 p.m. EST
with New York Times bestselling author
Anne Lamott

Your purchase of the book from the Bookstore at Calvary helps to support our ministry.



– Registration for the Zoom Conversations is open to all –
Follow the link on the Bookstore at Calvary's webpage at
www.calvarypgh.org



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An Invitation to Help Share Awareness of the Beloved Community Initiative (BCI)

As the saying goes, we want to hear from you. It's true!

As the Diocese of Pittsburgh continues this new collaborative effort of establishing a Beloved Community, an important step is for you to provide us your thoughts on the BCI – what

you already know or need to learn; what you are doing or where you might need help; who is involved and how we might share our experiences with one another.

In the process, we will learn from you. By completing the survey linked to below, you will begin a dialogue that will lay the foundation for future conversations and activities, whether among individuals, as a parish, across the diocese, or involving our neighbors. So, let's begin...



First, learn about The Beloved Community Initiative:

Our mission:

The Beloved Community Initiative (BCI) seeks to promote the liberating and reconciling love of Jesus Christ, particularly as it relates to racial justice and reconciliation. The BCI will serve specifically to develop strategies for this work that are informed by the gospel of Jesus Christ, our Baptismal Covenant and our diocesan mission.

The following links provide more information about the BCI:

- [Becoming Beloved Community](#)
- [Becoming the Beloved Community](#), a letter from Bishop McConnell
- [Reserve Your Seat at the Beloved Community Table](#)

Now, tell us about yourself by completing [this brief survey](#).

[Click here for the BCI Survey](#)

Garden Grants Available this Spring

This last year, with its pandemic and isolation, have been difficult for everyone, and we all are missing our church families. But Spring is coming! How about considering creating or sustaining a church vegetable garden, a wonderful outdoor activity offering easy social distancing, fresh air, and much-needed fresh produce for local food pantries and neighbors. So, grab those seed catalogs from your mailboxes, and start planning your planting strategy.



Once again in 2021, the diocesan Social Justice and Outreach (SJO) Committee will offer grants to fund church garden initiatives. For the last seven years, the diocesan SJO Committee has offered a few (4-8) small grants to support the efforts of creating and sustaining parish-based vegetable gardens. In 2020, five established gardens received funding: St. Brendan's, Franklin Park; Holy Cross, Homewood; St. David's, Peters Township; Spring Street Farms at the Community of Celebration, Aliquippa; and Shepherd's Wellness Community, Bloomfield.

More information and a Garden Grant application with submission instructions is [available here](#). **The deadline for submissions is March 16, 2021**

ECW Spring 2021 Scholarships Available

In 1927, The Episcopal Church Women established the Memorial Membership Fund to provide missionary training scholarships. In the 94 years of its existence, the scope of the fund has widened to include nursing, theology and other humanitarian fields of study.



Funds are raised through gifts from individuals or groups in memory of a loved one or friend. This money is invested and the interest used for the grants.

Each applicant must:

- be an Episcopalian in good standing (active) in a parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh,
- have completed one year of college or the equivalent,
- be pursuing education in either church or humanitarian related fields,
- submit an application, including a letter stating goals and need, and
- submit a reference letter from their parish priest.

The Memorial Membership Committee will consider each request based on individual need and circumstances. Scholarships are completely unencumbered and may be used as needed to aid the recipient in achieving their educational goals. Each eligible applicant is able to apply once a year for three years.

The applications must be received by Sunday, March 21, 2021. The application form with submission instructions is [available by clicking here](#).

For additional information please contact Betty Duckstein at ducksteine@yahoo.com.

ECW Spring 2020 Grant Applications Available

The Diocese of Pittsburgh's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will be making outreach grants in the Spring.

The ECW particularly seeks to support hands-on ministries that help children, adults and families in need of assistance with food, nutrition, health care, housing, education and counseling.



The grants are primarily designed for ministries within the diocese and with the goal of even distribution across all districts. It is hoped that these small grants will enable the continuation of existing ministries on the local level. However, the ECW will continue its policy of also awarding grants to some national and international ministries such as Episcopal Relief & Development.

[Click here for the grant application](#) and submission instructions. **Applications for the Spring 2021 grants must be submitted before Sunday, March 21, 2021.**

Important Reminders: 2020 Parochial Reports and Annual Reports Are Due

Remember, the deadline for filing **2020 Parochial Reports** was **March 1** with many reports still outstanding. File online at <https://reports.dfms.org>.

View our [PR QuickTips](#) on recording PPP loan forgiveness and responding to the new narrative questions on the diocesan website.

In order for the diocesan office to continue to have up-to-date information, please complete the **Annual Meeting Report Form** in [PDF](#) or [Word](#) at your earliest convenience following your parish's annual meeting.

Around the Diocese



Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:

March 7: St. Thomas, Canonsburg

March 14: St. James, Penn Hills

March 21: St. Barnabas, Brackenridge

March 28: St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg

Parish leadership is reminded to complete and submit [this form](#) at least two weeks in advance of their visitation.

Parting Shots

Ash Wednesday during the Covid pandemic required all parishes to explore new ways to observe the start of the Lenten season.

Two parishes, Christ Church, North Hills, and St. Thomas, Canonsburg, received some much deserved media attention for their creative solutions.

Christ Episcopal Church holds 'ashes to go' service to mark start of Lent



TONY LARUSSA | Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021 4:48 p.m.

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM



TONY LARUSSA | TRIBUNE-REVIEW

The Rev. James D. Shoucair, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in the North Hills, applies ashes to the forehead of a parishioner using a cotton swab during an "ashes to go" event to mark Ash Wednesday, which is the start of the 40-day Lenten season for Christians.



The prohibition against large gatherings to help slow the spread of coronavirus forced changes in the traditional practice of ministers applying ashes to the foreheads of worshipers on Ash Wednesday to mark the start of the Lenten season.

While some churches canceled the ceremony altogether, others got a little creative with the ceremony in which ashes symbolize death and repentance.

At Christ Episcopal Church on Babcock Boulevard in the North Hills, the Ash Wednesday service was celebrated in an empty sanctuary but video recorded for broadcast on the church's website.

EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

TribLIVE's Daily and Weekly [email newsletters](#) deliver the news you want and information you need, right to your inbox.

<https://triblive.com/local/north-hills/christ-episcopal-church-holds-ashes-to-go-service-to-mark-start-of-lent/>

Ashes to go



KATIE ANDERSON/OBSERVER-REPORTER
Cathy Brall, Priest in Charge at St. Thomas Episcopal Church on North Jefferson Avenue in Canonsburg, delivers ashes to residents and parishioners on Ash Wednesday, during a drive-up service.



KATIE ANDERSON/OBSERVER-REPORTER
Maggie Parrott, a seminary student with St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Canonsburg, hangs a sign at the front door, informing residents they can receive "Ashes to Go" on Ash Wednesday.

Church accommodates believers during pandemic

By KATIE ANDERSON
Staff writer
kanderson@observer-reporter.com

Parishioners were able to receive "Ashes to Go" at St. Thomas Episcopal Church on North Jefferson Avenue, Canonsburg, on Ash Wednesday.

Cathy Brall, Priest in Charge at St. Thomas, held a brief, small Communion service Wednesday afternoon before distributing ashes in front of the church steps.

"We are very thankful to be able to do this for people," Brall said. "I'm delighted it's a beautiful day. It's cool, but

it's a wonderful start to Lent."

The drive-up ashes offered an abbreviated version of the traditional Imposition of Ashes service, which marks the beginning of Lent, a season in which Christians pray and fast in preparation of Easter.

People were able to drive up to the church sidewalk from 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday to receive ashes as Brall prayed for them. Participants wore masks, and Brall used a cotton swab to ensure safety measures during the pandemic.

"In a hard year, anything we can do to bless people is wonderful," Brall said.



KATIE ANDERSON/OBSERVER-REPORTER
Cathy Brall, Priest in Charge at St. Thomas Episcopal Church on North Jefferson Avenue in Canonsburg, gives ashes to Katie and Bill Endler of Canonsburg on Ash Wednesday during a drive-up service.

https://observer-reporter.com/news/localnews/drive-through-ashes/article_5711fbea-7152-11eb-b879-5fc46fcb1be5.html

Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh | 325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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